AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for synthesizing speech with an apparatus comprising a sound source for generating a frequency signal, a vocal tract filter for filtering said frequency signal to generate a speech waveform signal, said filter having characteristics corresponding to a linear predictive coefficient calculated from respective phonemes in a phoneme series, comprising the steps of:

dividing each of said phonemes into N frames, each of said N frames having a predetermined time length;

summing squares of speech samples in ~~one~~ each of said N frames as a frame power value for each frame, respectively;

standardizing frame power values at head and tail frames in one phoneme to predetermined values, respectively, to obtain a standardized frame power value of an n-th frame, wherein ($1 < n < N$);

summing squares of signal levels of an n-th frame in said frequency signal to obtain a frame power correction value for the n-th frame; and

providing a speech envelope signal by means of a function having variables of said standardized frame power value of the n-th frame and said frame power correction value for the

n-th frame, and adjusting an amplitude level of said speech waveform signal based on the speech envelope signal.

2. (previously presented): A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

providing power frequency characteristics based on said linear predictive coefficient corresponding to said n-th frame,

calculating an average value of power values sampled from said power frequency characteristics at a predetermined frequency interval as a mean frame power value for the n-th frame,

calculating said speech envelope signal by means of a function having variables of said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, said frame power correction value for the n-th frame and said mean frame power value for the n-th frame, and

adjusting an amplitude of said speech waveform signal based on said speech envelope signal.

3. (previously presented): A method according to claim 2, wherein said function is expressed;

$$V_m = \sqrt{P_n/(G_s G_f)}$$

wherein P_n is said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, G_s is said frame power correction value for the n-th frame, and G_f is said mean frame power value for the n-th frame.

4. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said frequency signal includes an impulse signal carrying a voiced sound and a noise signal carrying an unvoiced sound.